

CLAIMS:

1. A respiratory component mounting assembly comprising:
a first respiratory component having at least two spaced apart clip openings;
a second respiratory component having at least two spaced apart clip openings; and
a mounting clip having an intermediate portion and two spaced apart free ends connected to the intermediate portion,
wherein the intermediate portion of the mounting clip is received within both of the clip openings of the first respiratory component and the free ends of the mounting clip are received in the clip openings of the second respiratory component for releasably securing the first and second respiratory components together.
2. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 1 wherein the mounting clip includes at least one living hinge between each free end and the intermediate portion of the mounting clip.
3. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 2 wherein the mounting clip includes two living hinges between each free end and the intermediate portion of the mounting clip.
4. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 1 wherein the clip openings of the first respiratory component comprise four generally parallel slots, and wherein the intermediate portion of the mounting clip is received in each of those slots.
5. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 4 wherein the first respiratory component has an inner face and an outer face, wherein the intermediate portion of the mounting clip has a first surface and a second surface, and wherein between each pair of adjacent slots in the first respiratory component, one of the faces of the mounting clip is aligned against one of the faces of the first respiratory component.

6. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 1 wherein the first respiratory component comprises a belt.
7. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 1 wherein the second respiratory component comprises a belt.
8. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 1 wherein each free end of the mounting clip has a biased detent tab thereon for locking engagement with an opposed detent surface adjacent its respective clip opening on the second respiratory component.
9. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 1 wherein the mounting clip is formed from a polypropylene.
10. A respiratory component mounting assembly comprising:
 - a respiratory component having at least two spaced apart connector receptacles therein;
 - a mounting clip having at least two spaced apart free ends which are at least partially received within the connector receptacles of the respiratory component; and
 - a user-wearable respiratory component support member having at least two slots therein,wherein an intermediate portion of the mounting clip between its free ends is received in those slots for affixing the respiratory component to the respiratory component support member.
11. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10 wherein the support member has four generally parallel slots therein, and the intermediate portion of the mounting clip is received in each of those slots.

12. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 11 wherein the support member has an inner face and an outer face, wherein the intermediate portion of the mounting clip has a first surface and a second surface, and wherein between each pair of adjacent slots in the support member, one of the faces of the mounting clip is aligned generally against one of the faces of the support member.

13. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10, and further comprising:

the respiratory component being one of a plurality of respiratory components, with each respiratory component having at least two spaced apart connector receptacles therein, wherein the orientations of the connector receptacles from one respiratory component to another are different; and

the mounting clip being one of a plurality of mounting clips, each mounting clip having at least two spaced apart free ends, wherein the alignments of the free ends from one mounting clip to another are different to accommodate the different orientations of connector receptacles on the respiratory components.

14. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10, wherein the free ends of the mounting clip are aligned to extend in generally opposite directions.

15. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10 wherein the free ends of the mounting clip are aligned to extend toward each other.

16. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 15 wherein the mounting clip includes at least one living hinge between each free end and the intermediate portion of the mounting clip.

17. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10 wherein each free end of the mounting clip has a biased detent tab thereon for locking engagement with an opposing detent surface adjacent its respective connector receptacle on the respiratory component.
18. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10 wherein the support member is a belt.
19. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 18 wherein the belt has a main portion which extends around the sides and back of a user, and a connected buckle portion which extends across the front of a user, and wherein the slots are on a back side in the main portion of the belt.
20. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 19 wherein the buckle portion of the belt is detachable from the main portion.
21. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10 wherein the slots are generally parallel.
22. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10 wherein the slots are generally vertically aligned.
23. The respiratory component mounting assembly of claim 10 wherein at least the free ends of the mounting clip are flexibly resilient.
24. The respiratory component mount assembly of claim 10, wherein each free end is removably received within its respective connector receptacle of the respiratory component.
25. The respiratory component assembly of claim 10 wherein the intermediate portion of the mounting clip is removably received in the slots of the respiratory component support member.

26. The respiratory component assembly of claim 10 wherein the mounting clip is formed from a polypropylene.
27. A method of mounting a respiratory component to a user-wearable respiratory component support member comprises:
- providing at least two spaced apart connector receptacles on the respiratory component;
 - providing at least two generally parallel slots in the support member;
 - providing a mounting clip having an intermediate portion and two spaced apart free ends projecting therefrom;
 - inserting the intermediate portion of the mounting clip into the slots on the support member, with the free ends of the mounting clip projecting from one side of the support member; and
 - inserting the free ends of the mounting clip into the connector receptacles on the respiratory component.
28. The method of claim 27, and further comprising:
- reinforcing the slots in the support member.
29. A method of mounting a respiratory component to a user-wearable respiratory support member comprises:
- providing at least two spaced apart connector receptacles on the respiratory component;
 - providing at least two slots in the support member;
 - providing a mounting clip having an intermediate portion and two spaced apart free ends projecting therefrom;
 - inserting the intermediate portion of the mounting clip into the clip openings on the respiratory component, with the free ends of the mounting clip projecting from one side of the respiratory component; and
 - inserting the free ends of the mounting clip into the slots of the support member.

30. The method of claim 29, and further comprising:
reinforcing the slots in the support member.